



Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force

MEETING MINUTES

The Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force met on Wednesday, September 19, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. (EDT), at the Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room B, 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204.

I. Representative Ed Clere Calls the Meeting to Order (11:00 a.m.) **a. Introduction of Task Force Members**

Task Force Members Present: Kevin Moore, Jason Meyer, Kathleen McAllen, Jonathan Burlison, Christine Dahlberg, Kylee Hope, Julie Reynolds, Steve Cook, Kim Milas, Kim Dodson, and Shawn Fulton

Members Absent: Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch (Representative Ed Clere chaired the meeting in place of the Lt. Governor), Joe Langerak, Allison Taylor (Joshua Bougie attended in her place), Trent Fox (Kristin Schwartz attended in his place), Terry Stigdon (David Reed attended in her place), Sarah Renner (Dr. Steven Counsell attended in her place), Betty Williams (Shawn Fulton attended in her place), Dr. Pam Wright (Nancy Holsapple attended in her place) and Derek Nord with the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community at Indiana University also attended. For a portion of the meeting, Dave Bozell stepped in for Kevin Moore.

II. Listening Session – Facilitated by DDRS Staff Representative (11:05 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.)

Dan Allison, parent: Dan's comment was around his children who are deaf/blind and the services they received from the Indiana Deaf/Blind Project services. He asks that federal funding received might get matched by state funds.

Heather Sorrells, Board Member, INAPSE: Heather gave an overview of written comments that she submitted and gave recommendations on where improvements can be made.

Shawn Fulton, Treasurer of Self-Advocates of Indiana: Shawn gave an overview of Self-Advocates and submitted a written document that captured his comments.

Jennifer Greenlee, parent: Her comments were around managing her daughter's care. She's been on the waiver for years but only recently have they gotten adequate staffing. Respite compensation is lower than PA compensation and some companies will not provide respite if they can't use PA hours along with it. It is essential to establish a higher pay rate for these individuals.

Shirley Larson, family member: She is a guardian for her 65 year old brother who has lived in a group home for twenty eight years. She served on the 2013 Group Home Conversion Task Force years ago. She's expressing her desire that the Task Force reconsider closing group homes.

Sean Rector: Shawn's comments focus on self-advocates' concern about access to transportation and the need to increase DSP wages.



Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force

Megan Gumble, CEO of the Giving Hope Foundation. Megan asked the Task Force please consider solutions that will help both families and caregivers. Consider the following: 1) there is a lack of understanding of available benefits for individuals; 2) there is a need for respite – caregivers need a break; 3) there is a need for access to quality and compassionate medical care; 4) access to adequate access to transportation services. We should strive to create the best practices.

Kim Irwin, Executive Director of Health by Design: Kim gave an overview of the organization Health By Design – she also submitted a written comment and has 3 recommendations for the Task Force: 1) Providing transportation related opportunities that foster independence and control and empower people with disabilities; 2) coordinating and collaborating across agencies and with organizations public and private as well as key stakeholders around strategies to increase and improve accessible transportation infrastructure throughout the state; 3) eliminating access barriers and implementing innovated transportation policies and programs across public and private systems that would increase employment, self-direction and community integration.

Trish Ierino, Family member of someone with a disability: Because of the services she receives, she is able to help her sister and maintain her job. She shared her very difficult experiences with her family and getting waiver services for her sister. Since her mother has passed away her sister is getting the services what she needs and began excelling as an artist. She recounted an experience with her sister getting separated from her caregiver. The provider, Stonebelt, has come up with a training to mitigate the severe distrust she has now with caregivers. The challenges of the budget and finding a roommate or community employment. Please reconsider the 80 year old parent rule. Reimbursement rates for DSPs need to go up because they are not realistic.

Joe Spoelker, Rauch: Expressed his appreciation to Representative Clere and the Task Force.

Leslie Green, CEO of Stonebelt: DSP Appreciation was celebrated last week. They are so far from having the workforce that they need. At any one time they need 50 employees. This has to be one of the most important recommendations that comes from this Task Force and the next budget session.

III. Review and Approval of Minutes from August 29th Meeting

Meeting Minutes were approved by consensus.

IV. Review of Recommendations held from August meeting

a. Supported Decision Making – Kylee Hope (DDRS Director)

Recommendation #1 - Approved by Consensus

Indiana should encourage efforts to increase the use of supported decision-making and other alternatives to guardianship.

b. Ability Indiana Opportunities for Employing Hoosiers with Disabilities– Kylee Hope

Addition to Recommendation #2- Approved by Consensus

In collaboration with stakeholders, Indiana shall explore, expand and promote workforce initiatives to help employers in hiring individuals with disabilities to



Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force

create an inclusive workforce, which may include access to tax incentives, recruitment and retention strategies and training resources, etc.

c. **Tying Funding to the Individual - Jonathan Burlison (Bridges)**

Recommendation #1 - WITHDRAWN

~~It is my recommendation to the 1102 Task Force that DDRS provide plan to eliminate ICF/ID beds from the service model for individuals with disabilities and transition people into HCBS Waiver services within a 5 year time frame.~~

~~It is my recommendation this will go hand in hand with an HCBS Waiver build that incorporates state wide crisis, and high medical wavier design to address outliers who require immediate and more intense supports. This would lead to positive outcomes for individuals supported by DDRS through:~~

~~Expanding choice to include living situation, housemates, type of service~~

~~Freedom to access the community as they choose~~

~~People can choose to live where they want and with whom~~

~~The 1102 Task Force should implement tactics to assure people supported can be quickly moved into HCBS while offering incentives to providers for early adoption of ICF/ID closures. The plan developed by DDRS needs to be completed within 1 year and must address those individuals who have significant needs and tie funding appropriately to the individual and not to a facility.~~

Alternative Recommendation #1 - WITHDRAWN - Steve Cook (INARF) & Kim Dodson (The Arc)

~~Create living settings that provide informed choice for people with disabilities to live in a setting that allows them to enjoy their interests, hobbies and preferred lifestyle. As new HCBS waivers are designed they must incorporate ways to provide for those who require more supports due to high medical or behavioral needs. Settings should always take into consideration choice in living situations, housemates and communities in which to live. While creating new living settings, the state should discontinue development of any new ICF/IDD Supervised Group Living (SGL) group homes and should develop incentives for SGL providers to convert to HCBS settings where consumer informed choice, and DDRS residential support needs and demand no longer supports those settings.~~

Revised Recommendation v. 1 – Adopted by consensus.

Given the historic trend of reduced use of settings with institutional funding, it is time for Indiana to review those settings (Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities {ICF/IDDs}, nursing facilities {NFs}, and state operated facilities {SOFs}) with a focus to modernize the system and potentially reduce the number of institutional settings for individuals with I/DD.

The review will include a group of stakeholders including self-advocates, advocacy organizations, state regulatory agencies, provider organizations and representatives of the 1102 Task Force.



Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force

No later than December 31, 2020, the stakeholder group will develop a plan to:

1. Assess the needs of individuals in the system and the needs of individuals not currently in the system.
2. Determine the needs and desires of those individuals currently living in settings with institutional funding and how to transition them out of those settings if appropriate and their desire.
3. Assist providers who choose to voluntarily convert their ICF/IDDs into HCBS Settings.
4. Determine the number of settings and type of settings with focus on eliminating unnecessary settings.
5. Based on the above determination, identify the service needs of individuals served in settings with institutional funding and how the Indiana model can improve quality outcomes for those served.
6. Ensuring that all living settings are provided with informed choice at every level inclusive of person centered thinking and principles including living situations, housemates, and types of services.

V. New Recommendations

a. Employment First – Christine Dahlberg, Governor’s Council for People with Disabilities - Adopted by consensus.

It is important that Indiana creates an economy and workforce where youth and adults with disabilities, including individuals with significant disabilities, have real opportunities to become competitively employed, use their talents and skills, work alongside other Hoosiers, and earn meaningful, competitive wages, consistent with a person’s right to make an informed choice about employment options that meet their needs and preferences.

The 1102 Task Force supports the efforts of the Indiana Rehabilitation Commission and DDRS to implement Employment First in Indiana and encourages their efforts to develop policies, practices, and service delivery models to facilitate increased competitive employment options as the first and preferred outcome of services for people with disabilities.

b. Appropriation – Kathleen McAllen – Adopted by consensus.

Appropriations for DDRS and other state agencies sufficient to develop, plan and implement Task Force recommendations in keeping with timelines specified in this report or, in the absence of a specified timeline, at the earliest date possible.



Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force

- VI. Review of Proposed Task Force Report - Dr. Derek Nord (Indiana Institute on Disability and Community at Indiana University, Bloomington)**
Task Force discussed contents of report and timeline for suggested edits.
- VII. Task Force Discussion/Additional Business**
Final Meeting - Wednesday, October 17, 2018, 11:00 a.m. (EDT)
Peabody Public Library
1160 East SR 205
Columbia City, IN 46725
- VIII. Meeting Adjourns**